



Comprehensive Economic
Development Strategy (CEDS)
Annual Report and Resolution

October 8, 2025

A night-time photograph of the Atlanta skyline, featuring the prominent, illuminated Georgia State Capitol building. The foreground shows a multi-lane highway with light trails from cars, suggesting a long-exposure shot. The sky is a deep blue, and the city lights are visible in the background. The text 'ONE great REGION' is overlaid on the right side of the image.

ONE
great
REGION

Vision

ONE **great** REGION

Mission

Foster thriving communities for all within the Atlanta region through collaborative, data-informed planning and investments.

Values

Excellence | **Integrity** | **Equity**

Goals



Healthy, safe, livable communities in the Atlanta Metro area.



Strategic investments in people, infrastructure, mobility, and preserving natural resources.



Regional services delivered with **operational excellence** and **efficiency**.



Diverse stakeholders engage and take a regional approach to solve local issues.



A competitive economy that is inclusive, innovative, and resilient.

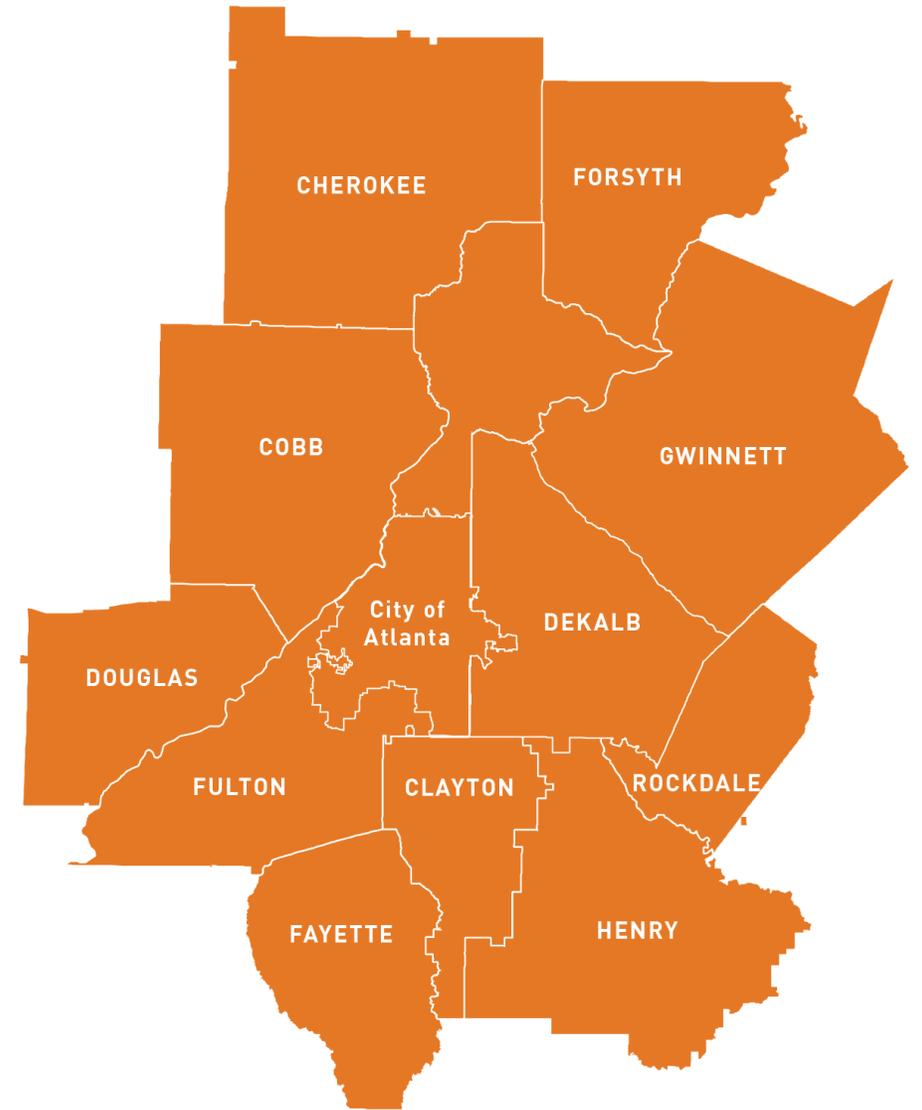
Agenda

- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Overview
- Purpose and Goals
- Regional Demographic Update
- 2025 Successes
- 2026 Initiatives



CEDS Overview

- Required for EDA designation as an Economic Development District (EDD)
- Updated every five years
- Submitted to EDA regional office for approval (Adopted and Approved in 2022)
- Requirement for various EDA funding including EDA's Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs, Other



Purpose of the CEDS and Goals

Purpose:

- Build on strengths and identify gaps
- Facilitate regional collaboration
- Attract federal funds and technical assistance
- Generate region-wide discussions

Goals:

- Build on Successes
- Reinforce Equity
- Focus on Business Innovation
- Ensure Competitiveness



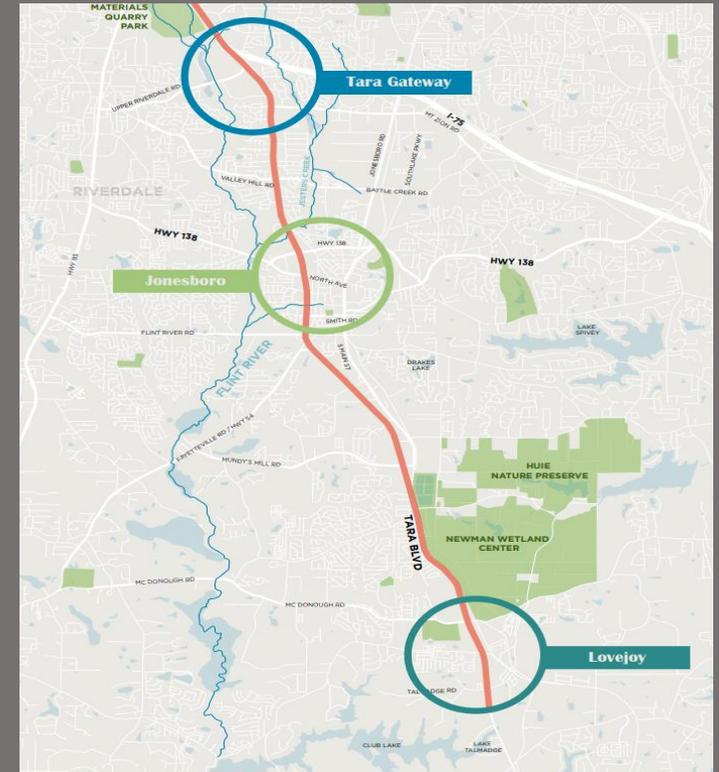
Regional Demographic Update-3 Years Later

- Despite income gains, all counties are now cost-burdened compared to only two in 2022
- Largest employers (top 20)-still Health Care and Education
 - Delta Air Lines is now #1
- Youth poverty rates fell with the sharpest decline in DeKalb County



2025 Successes

- Blueprint 2.0: Aerotropolis Atlanta Alliance Implementation
 - ▶ Tara Boulevard
 - Task Force/LCI
- Housing
 - ▶ MAHS-data update and one-pager
 - ▶ Quarterly Housing Forum and Housing Task Force
 - ▶ Housing Leadership Academy (HLA) Cohort #4
 - ▶ Launch Regional Housing Strategy
- Economic Development Forum Series
 - ▶ Regional Economic Development practitioners and stakeholders
 - ▶ Focus on small businesses and workforce resources



Initiatives Planned for 2026

- Economic Development Forums (4)
- Housing:
 - Regional Housing Strategy (Agency-Wide)
 - Housing Leadership Academy Cohort #5
 - Local housing assessments (CDAP)
- Innovation hubs, incubators and similar resource gap analysis and regional network planning
- Economic development website-resource focused update
- Support local jurisdictions/organizations
- CEDS update-due in 2027





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Link to CEDS: [Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy \(CEDS\) - Atlanta Regional Commission](#)